

JEAN ELIOT'S CHRONICLES OF CAPITAL SOCIETY DOINGS

Dinner Parties All the Rage in Capital Now

DEAR SUSAN:

At this season there isn't a day which hasn't its list of formal dinner parties, dinners given by the diplomats for officials and by officials for the diplomats, at which long lists of important personages are asked to meet other equally important personages. And official receptions "all same like" the brilliant function given last evening at the Congressional Club, with the Vice President and Mrs. Marshall as the honor guests, are also in order.

There is, however, an undercurrent of entertaining of a less formal character. Little dinner parties of a dozen guests or so, parties which don't get into the papers, and which provide the salt that gives life in Washington. On such occasions when officials are included among the guests they are invited for personality and not for position. Usually each person present has something definite to contribute. Conversation is developed to a fine art, and frequently a little music brings the evening to an agreeable close.

It is interesting to notice, by the way, how much more important a part music is playing in Washington's social life than ever before. Why, the list of musicians which have been given in the last few weeks or are to be given shortly is quite imposing: Mrs. John Jacob Rogers, for instance, entertained very delightfully yesterday afternoon at the Washington Club, her guests being asked to "hear a little music and have a cup of tea."

It was very good music and excellent tea, and the function was none the less enjoyable because it was marked by a certain degree of informality. Can't entertain much because of war work.

Mrs. Rogers, you see, is not going on for very formal entertaining this winter and is not able to keep up all of the social duties of her position as wife of Congressman Rogers of Massachusetts, as she is nursing at the Walter Reed Hospital and her time there is very limited.

The musicians which Colonel and Mrs. Robert Thompson are to give on Tuesday evening, when Mrs. Frances Alda—if I remember correctly—is to sing, will be rather more formal in character, and so was the afternoon musicale which Mrs. Robert McCormick had a fortnight or so ago. Hans Kindler, the youthful cellist, played on this occasion and Mrs. McCormick had a notable company of guests to hear him.

Mrs. Marshall Field has had several dinner parties with music to follow and on more than one occasion she has recruited her "talent" from the ranks of amateurs, some of the young diplomats, in particular, being cultivated musicians. Mrs. Connelley Ford is another hostess who gives delightful musicales and she entertained recently at the Washington Club with an afternoon of music which was singularly enjoyable.

The reception at the Congressional Club last evening was the first important function given there this season. It was very dignified and enjoyable and brought to mind the reception given at the club on St. Valentine's Day, 1916, for the President and Mrs. Wilson shortly after their marriage. The following winter the Marshalls were the honor guests at the most important of the club's festivities, and last winter, if memory serves, the organization cut out all formal entertaining, going in very extensively for war work and giving only such parties as the weekly Friday afternoon teas and occasional informal dances.

Mrs. Wadsworth Resumes Thursdays at Home.

One of the most significant events of the week, to my mind, was Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth's reception on Thursday night, significant because it marked the resumption of her famous Thursday evenings at home. Mrs. Wadsworth has been away from Washington for several years and her great house in Massachusetts avenue was for many months occupied by the District of Columbia Chapter of the Red Cross. But for several years before she went away her Thursday evening receptions were among the most delightful events of the midwinter season.

The invitations always read "At Home, Thursday evenings until Lent," and consequently her friends were privileged to drop in any Thursday or every Thursday as the spirit moved them and engagements permitted. Always there was music, with dancing for those who cared for the pastime; frequently bridge tables were set up in one of the smaller drawing rooms, and it was all very jolly and informal. The reception last week "ran true to form" and indications are that "Mrs. Wadsworth's Thursdays" will be as popular as ever this season.

It's a poor week that doesn't boast at least one important wedding, and this week the bride was Mary Mont-



MME. EDOUARD DE BILLY.
Wife of the Deputy High Commissioner of France to the United States, and one of the most interesting recent additions to the diplomatic set.



MISS NANNIE MERRICK HAMILTON,
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Hamilton, who made her formal debut at a tea early in January. She is a sister of the Misses Elizabeth and Louise Hamilton.



MME. SEICHIRO YOKATA,
Wife of the second secretary of the Japanese embassy. She expects to return to Japan before long and her going will leave a gap in the diplomatic set.

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southward for a short wedding trip. Mrs. Bernhard wearing a traveling costume of blue duvetyne trimmed with silver gray fox and a small hat of the duvetyne combined with fox. On the completion of their brief honeymoon, Commander Bernhard will rejoin his ship, the U. S. S. Kansas, and Mrs. Bernhard will return to Washington. She will make her headquarters here as long as her husband is at sea, joining him whenever the ship is in port.

Commander Bernhard, who is the son of the late Rev. Joseph Bernhard and Mrs. Bernhard, of Lawrence, Kan., was stationed in Washington two or three years ago—aboard the Mayflower, I believe—and met his bride during her first season out. She is the younger daughter of Admiral and Mrs. Gheen and an unusually popular and attractive girl.

Mrs. Walter Schoelkopf, of Buffalo, who is in Washington during the absence of her husband, Captain Schoelkopf, U. S. A., in France, occupying a house in N street, has her pretty little nieces, Florence Judge, with her for company. Miss Langmuir, of Canada, is also staying with her, and last week she had Mrs. Alexander Brown's sister, Mrs. James, of Baltimore, with her for several days. This was just about the time that Mr. and Mrs. Brody were here, staying with Mr. and Mrs. George T. Mayne; and, of course, there was a little flurry of entertaining for the popular visitors.

On Wednesday evening Mrs. Schoelkopf and Mrs. Brody were guests at a delightful dinner party which Katherine Judge, who has been with her sister, Mrs. Theodore Baldwin, for the greater part of the winter, gave at the Cafe Savoy. No. 10, Miss Judge is not related to Mrs. Schoelkopf nor to her niece, Florence Judge, although the two families are old friends, but their similarity of names gave rise to considerable confusion, particularly as Florence Judge also had a dinner party that evening—a young people's party—to which a number of the debutantes were asked. (Continued on page 15)

Late in the afternoon Commander Bernhard and his bride slipped away

my litany and to pray to be delivered from battle, murder and jinx music.

British-American Relief Has To Postpone Fete Date.

Owing to the unforeseen circumstances the date of the amateur performances in aid of the British-American War Relief Fund has been changed from February 19 to Wednesday, February 26. The entertainment will be given in the ballroom of Mrs. Gaff's house at 1820 Twentieth street, as announced.

So much interest has been aroused by the bare announcement last week and there have already been so many inquiries for tickets (which, however, will not be on sale until Wednesday, February 26), that the committee has decided to give two performances on February 26, a matinee at 3 o'clock, and an evening performance at 9:30 o'clock. The price of admission has been fixed at \$4.

Plans for the entertainment are rapidly taking shape and rehearsals start this week. J. M. Barrie's one-act play, "The Twelve Pound Look," is perhaps the piece de resistance. Leading parts will be taken by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bell. This delightful playlet will be flanked by vaudeville and a big number in which many of the season's most prominent debutantes will take part.

Of Course, We'll All Go to Southern Relief This Week.

Of the several charity balls on the calendar for February, the first, and perhaps the most important, is the Southern Relief Ball, on Monday, February 3, at the Willard. This is the twenty-sixth annual charity ball to be given by the Southern Relief Society, which was organized in 1891 for the relief of Southerners in destitute circumstances and which provides the only support for Confederate veterans, their wives and widows, in the District of Columbia.

The proceeds of the ball will be used to maintain the Southern Relief Home, 2403 Pennsylvania avenue, and to care for a number of pensioners throughout the city.

Miss Nannie Randolph Heth, for thirteen years president of this society, will head the receiving line and will be assisted by Mrs. Claude Swanson, first vice president, and several of the Cabinet ladies. Among the box-holders will be Mrs. Ureuta, Mrs. E. T. Stokesbury, Mrs. Robert M. Thompson, Dr. Gen. and Mrs. Frederick V. Abbott, Mrs. Joseph E. Thropp, Mrs. Thomas F. Ryan, Mrs. Gibson Fahnestock, Mrs. Thomas Loran, Mrs. Charles Boughton Wood, Mrs. S. E. Johnson, Major William Eric Fowler, A. B. McLean and Mitchell Harrison.

Canadian Ace to Lecture for Home.

We're deeply interested in the lecture to be given by the famous Canadian ace, Col. William A. Bishop, R. F. C., on Tuesday afternoon at the National Theater for the benefit of the Working Boys' Home, not only because Colonel Bishop's talk on "Air Fighting in Flanders" is sure to be illuminating, but because a baker's dozen of fliers are to be in the audience.

For instance, there's Lieut. Col. Wil-

Fancies, Fads, And Foibles of Capital Society

ard Crane, 3d; Mrs. Alexander Mackay-Smith, Mrs. John J. J. Rogers and Mrs. Paul Hudson. Mrs. Hudson, by the way, is the mother of Lieut. Donald Hudson, the fifth American ace, who enlisted in Washington and whose chief claim to fame is that he brought down three German planes in ten minutes, a record achievement.

After the lecture Colonel Bishop will hold an informal reception on the stage for any one who cares to shake hands with this flier—he's still in his early twenties—the hero of a hundred amazing adventures. The aviators in the audience will be especially presented to the lecturer by General Kenly.

Another interesting feature of the entertainment is the number of the ter parties for convalescents from the various military hospitals and men from the camps near Washington which are being arranged. Edward L. Doherty, of California; Mrs. James W. Wadsworth, Jr.; Mrs. John Jacob Rogers, Mrs. Charles Boughton Wood, Mrs. Cary Longhorne, Mrs. Walter Tuckerman, and Mrs. Richardson Clover are among those who have taken blocks of seats to be occupied by soldier guests.

Colonel Bishop was in Washington a year or so ago for several weeks on special duty with the British War Mission and at that time a great many people had opportunity to meet him. He had recently been married and had his bride with him. The boy is credited with having brought down over seventy Hun planes—think of it!—and wears the Military Cross, the D. S. O., and the V. C., as well as the ribbon of the Legion of Honor.

Working Boys' Home An Appealing Charity.

The Working Boys' Home is a particularly appealing charity, for it gives help to a group of youngsters who are struggling to help themselves. Mrs. Arthur Lee is president of the board of managers, under whose direction the entertainment has been arranged; but, as she is away for the winter, Mrs. Randall Hagner is acting president. Mrs. Harold Walker and Mrs. Victor Cushman have done most of the hard work in making the arrangements for the benefit and to them must go much of the credit for the success of the venture.

Susan, do you remember Mrs. Frank A. Abbott, of Buffalo? But of (Continued on Page 15)

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